

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for effecting a transaction between a person and a provider over a network, said method comprising:

storing, in a database, a plurality of unique identification~~biometric traits~~ of the person and a plurality of provider files~~associated with the unique identification trait of the person~~, the plurality of provider files being respectively associated with a plurality of providers and with the plurality of unique biometric traits such that ~~a given~~ each one of the plurality of provider files is ~~associated with a particular unique to at most one of the plurality of providers and to at most one of the plurality of unique biometric traits;~~

establishing a communication link over said network between a communication device and a selected one of said plurality of providers;

acquiring, at said communication device, at least one purchase selection provided by the person;

transmitting, from said communication device to said selected provider, the at least one purchase selection;

receiving, at said communication device from said selected provider, an order form for carrying out a transaction based on the at least one selection;

generating, using a biometric device, a unique biometric identification~~trait~~ associated with the person;

comparing, at said biometric device, the generated unique biometric identification~~trait~~ to the plurality of unique biometric identification~~traits~~ stored in the database; and

in response to determining that the generated unique biometric identification~~trait~~ substantially matches one of the stored unique biometric identification~~traits~~,

~~automatically locating, from among the plurality of files in the database, using the matched one of the stored unique biometric traits, a file associated with the corresponding one of the plurality of selected provider files,~~

~~retrieving, from the located one of the plurality of provider files database, a credit card number of the person and personal information of associated with the person and with the corresponding one of the plurality of providers that are stored in association with the located file,~~

automatically completing, at said communication device, the received order form using the retrieved credit card number and the retrieved personal information, and

automatically transmitting, to the provider from said communication device, the completed form and a verification code ~~indicating that the generated unique identification trait and the stored unique identification trait substantially match.~~

2. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein

said communication device is selected from the group consisting of a wireless communication device and a wired communication device,

said wireless communication device being further selected from the group consisting of a PDA, a cell phone, a satellite broadcasting receiver terminal, and a portable computer, and

said wired communication device being further selected from the group consisting of a personal computer, a server computer, a point-of-sale terminal, an automatic teller

machine (ATM), a cable receiver terminal, and a landline telephone.

3. - 9. (cancelled)

10. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein said biometric device comprises a fingerprint analyzer, and said generated unique identification trait and said plurality of stored unique identification traits include data identifying a plurality of fingerprints.

11. (cancelled)

12. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein the verification code is associated with the person.

13. (cancelled)

14. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1, further comprising providing at least one of a visual indication and an audible indication that directs said person to cause said biometric device to perform said generating step.

15. - 108. (cancelled)

109. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein the verification code authorizes said provider to complete said transaction.

110. (cancelled)

111. (currently amended) A communication device, comprising:

means for storing, in a database, a plurality of unique ~~identification~~ biometric traits of the person and a plurality of provider files ~~associated with the unique identification trait of the person~~, the plurality of provider files being respectively associated with a plurality of providers and with the plurality of unique biometric traits such that ~~a given each~~ one of the plurality of provider files is ~~associated with a particular unique to at most one of the plurality of providers and to at most one of the plurality of unique biometric traits;~~

means for establishing a communication link over a network with a selected one of the plurality of providers;

means for acquiring at least one purchase selection provided by the person;

means for transmitting, to said selected provider, the at least one purchase selection;

means for receiving, from said selected provider, an order form for carrying out a transaction based on the at least one purchase selection;

a biometric device comprising:

means for generating a unique biometric identification trait associated with the person, and

means for comparing the generated unique biometric identification trait to the plurality of unique biometric identification traits stored in the database; and

means for, in response to determining that the generated unique biometric identification trait substantially matches one of the stored unique biometric identification traits, automatically locating a file associated with the corresponding one of the plurality of selected provider files from among the plurality of files in the database using the matched one of the stored unique biometric traits, retrieving from the located one of the plurality of provider files ~~database~~ a credit card number ~~of the person~~ and personal information ~~of~~ associated with the person and with the corresponding one of the plurality of providers that are stored in association with the located file, automatically completing the received order form using the retrieved credit card number and the retrieved personal information, and automatically transmitting to the provider the completed form and a verification code ~~indicating that the generated unique identification trait~~

~~and the stored unique identification trait substantially match.~~

112. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 111, wherein

said communication device is selected from the group consisting of a wireless communication device and a wired communication device,

said wireless communication device being further selected from the group consisting of a PDA, a cell phone, a satellite broadcasting receiver terminal, and a portable computer, and

said wired communication device being further selected from the group consisting of a personal computer, a server computer, a point-of-sale terminal, an automatic teller machine (ATM), a cable receiver terminal, and a landline telephone.

113. - 117. (cancelled)

118. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 111, wherein said biometric device comprises a fingerprint analyzer, and said generated unique identification trait and said plurality of stored unique identification traits include data identifying a plurality of fingerprints.

119. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 111, wherein the verification code is associated with the person.

120. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 111, further comprising means for providing one or both of a visual indication and an audible indication that directs said person to cause said generating means to perform said generating step.

121. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 111, wherein the verification code authorizes the provider to complete said transaction.

122. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 111, wherein said means for transmitting transmits the substantially matching one of the plurality of stored unique identification traits over said network to said provider.

123. (currently amended) A communication device, comprising:

a database that stores a plurality of unique identification~~biometric~~ traits of the person and a plurality of provider files~~associated with the unique identification trait of the person~~, the plurality of provider files being respectively associated with a plurality of providers and with the plurality of unique biometric traits such that ~~a given each one~~ of the plurality of provider files is ~~associated with a particular unique to at most one~~ of the plurality of providers and to at most one of the plurality of unique biometric traits;

a network connection device that establishes a communication link over a network with a selected one of the plurality of providers;

an input device that acquires at least one purchase selection provided by the person;

said network connection device transmits the at least one purchase selection to said selected provider, and receives from said selected provider an order form for carrying out a transaction based on the at least one purchase selection;

a biometric device that generates a unique biometric identification~~trait~~ associated with the person and compares the generated unique biometric identification trait to the plurality of unique biometric identification traits stored in the database; and

a processor that, in response to determining that the generated unique biometric identification~~trait~~ substantially matches one of the stored unique biometric

~~identification traits, automatically locates a file associated with the corresponding one of the plurality of selected provider files from among the plurality of files in the database, retrieves from the located one of the plurality of provider files database a credit card number of the person and personal information of associated with the person and with the corresponding one of the plurality of providers that are stored in association with the located file, automatically completes the received order form using the retrieved credit card number and the retrieved personal information, and automatically causes said network connection device to transmit to the provider the completed form and a verification signal indicating that the generated unique identification trait and the stored unique identification trait substantially match.~~

124. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 123, wherein

said communication device is selected from the group consisting of a wireless communication device and a wired communication device,

said wireless communication device being further selected from the group consisting of a PDA, a cell phone, a satellite broadcasting receiver terminal, and a portable computer, and

said wired communication device being further selected from the group consisting of a personal computer, a server computer, a point-of-sale terminal, an automatic teller machine (ATM), a cable receiver terminal, and a landline telephone.

125. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 123, wherein said biometric device comprises a fingerprint analyzer, and said generated unique identification trait and

said plurality of stored unique identification traits include data identifying a plurality of fingerprints.

126. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 123, wherein the verification code is associated with the person.

127. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 123, wherein the verification code authorizes the provider to complete the transaction.

128. - 132. (cancelled)